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MERCHAND & GOULD P.C.
United States Patent Application
COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: APPARATUS FOR REFINING GLASS IN A FURNACE

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

The specification of which

a. ☐ is attached hereto

b. ☒ was filed on _____ as application serial no. _____ and was amended on _____ (if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. _____ filed _____ and as amended on _____ (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

a. ☐ no such applications have been filed.

b. ☒ such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
Germany	100 42 975.0	1 September 2000	
Germany	100 46 709.1	21 September 2000	

ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (reprinted below):

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

(ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) Each inventor named in the application:

(2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

(e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albrecht, John W.	Reg. No. 40,481	Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443
Ali, M. Jeffer	Reg. No. 46,359	Leonard, Christopher J.	Reg. No. 41,940
Altera, Allan G.	Reg. No. 40,274	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 28,828	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Lown, Jean A.	Reg. No. P-48,428
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612	Mayfield, Denise L.	Reg. No. 33,732
Berns, John M.	Reg. No. 43,496	McDonald, Daniel W.	Reg. No. 32,044
Branch, John W.	Reg. No. 41,633	McIntyre, Jr., William F.	Reg. No. 44,921
Bremer, Dennis C.	Reg. No. 40,528	Mitchem, M. Todd	Reg. No. 40,731
Brown, Jeffrey C.	Reg. No. 41,643	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 30,300
Bruess, Steven C.	Reg. No. 34,130	Nelson, Anna M.	Reg. No. P-48,935
Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 32,404	Parsons, Nancy J.	Reg. No. 40,364
Campbell, Keith	Reg. No. 46,597	Pauly, Daniel M.	Reg. No. 40,123
Carlson, Alan G.	Reg. No. 25,959	Phillips, John B.	Reg. No. 37,206
Caspers, Philip P.	Reg. No. 33,227	Pino, Mark J.	Reg. No. 43,858
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247	Prendergast, Paul	Reg. No. 46,068
Cook, Jeffrey	Reg. No. P-48,649	Pytel, Melissa J.	Reg. No. 41,512
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. 25,968	Qualey, Terry	Reg. No. 25,148
Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Reich, John C.	Reg. No. 37,703
Dalglish, Leslie E.	Reg. No. 40,579	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 36,414	Roberts, Fred	Reg. No. 34,707
DeVries Smith, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 42,157	Samuels, Lisa A.	Reg. No. 43,080
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707	Schmaltz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,828
Doscotch, Matthew A.	Reg. No. P-48,957	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,667	Scull, Timothy B.	Reg. No. 42,137
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. 40,620	Sebald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
Goggin, Matthew J.	Reg. No. 44,125	Skoog, Mark T.	Reg. No. 40,178
Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. 26,896	Spellman, Steven J.	Reg. No. 45,124
Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472	Stoll-DeBell, Kirstin L.	Reg. No. 43,164
Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Sullivan, Timothy	Reg. No. 47,981
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Sumner, John P.	Reg. No. 29,114
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Swenson, Erik G.	Reg. No. 45,147
Hamer, Samuel A.	Reg. No. 46,754	Tellekson, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Harrison, Kevin C.	Reg. No. 46,759	Tunheim, Marcia A.	Reg. No. 42,189
Hertzberg, Brett A.	Reg. No. 42,660	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Hillson, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,838	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668	Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
Hope, Leonard J.	Reg. No. 44,774	Weaver, Karrie G.	Reg. No. 43,245
Jardine, John S.	Reg. No. P-48,835	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. 39,721	Whipps, Brian	Reg. No. 43,261
Kadievitch, Natalie D.	Reg. No. 34,196	Whitaker, John E.	Reg. No. 42,222
Kaseburg, Frederick A.	Reg. No. 47,695	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924	Withers, James D.	Reg. No. 40,376
Keys, Jeramie J.	Reg. No. 42,724	Witt, Jonelle	Reg. No. 41,980
Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197	Wu, Tong	Reg. No. 43,361
Kowalchyk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535	Young, Thomas	Reg. No. 25,796
Kowalchyk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848	Zeuli, Anthony R.	Reg. No. 45,255
Lacy, Paul E.	Reg. No. 38,946		

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary. I understand that the execution of this document, and the grant of a power of attorney, does not in itself establish an attorney-client relationship between the undersigned and the law firm Merchant & Gould P.C., or any of its attorneys. Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

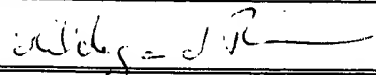
Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903



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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		GOHLKE	Dirk	
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		Mainz	Germany	Germany
1	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		Breidenbacherstrasse 6	Mainz	55126 Germany
Signature of Inventor 201:			Date:	
			20.10.01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		WITTE	Jörg	
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		Darmstadt	Germany	Germany
2	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		Amselweg 46	Darmstadt	64295 Germany
Signature of Inventor 202:			Date:	
			29.10.01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		SURGES	Nicole	
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		Bingen MÜNSTER-SARNSHEIM	Germany	Germany
3	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		Prinzenkopfstrasse 35 GRABENSTR. 3	Bingen MÜNSTER-SARNSHEIM	55411 Germany 55224
Signature of Inventor 203:			Date:	
			08.10.01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		KISSEL	Paul	
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		Mainz	Germany	Germany
4	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		Am Sonnigen Hang 9	Mainz	55127 Germany
Signature of Inventor 204:			Date:	
			27.10.01	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
		MUSCHICK	Wolfgang	
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
		Budenheim	Germany	Germany
5	Mailing Address	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
		Eaubonner Strasse 38a	Budenheim	55257 Germany
Signature of Inventor 205:			Date:	

2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name RÖMER	First Given Name Hildegard	Second Given Name
0	Residence & Citizenship	City Karben	State or Foreign Country Germany	Country of Citizenship Germany
6	Mailing Address	Address Heidegasse9	City Karben	State & Zip Code/Country 61184 Germany
Signature of Inventor 206: 			Date: 10/10/01	